

SURFACE WATER

Water Supply and Sanitary Sewage Disposal

The streams within the Sanford Planning Area are small, both in terms of physical dimensions and volumes. The significance of this in terms of planning for urban development is immediately realized when water supply and sanitary sewage disposal characteristics are examined.

Although no major streams flow through the Sanford Planning Area, it is within four miles of Deep River to the north and seven miles of the Cape Fear River to the northeast. The proximity of these two streams and the abundance of water which should be made available by water resources development projects planned for the Cape Fear Basin indicate an abundant supply of water for Sanford's future development both in terms of water supply and waste disposal requirements.

Currently, most of the water supply for the Sanford Area comes from Letty Creek, Miry Creek, and Bames Branch which empty into a reservoir near the upper (southern) end of the Lick Creek Drainage Basin; however, the supply of these streams has been increasingly supplemented during recent years by water pumped from the Cape Fear River.

Sanitary sewage effluent from Sanford's two treatment plants, Spring Lane and Jonesboro, is now released into Big Buffalo and Gaster's Creeks, respectively; however, during periods of low stream flow, the volumes of water in these streams are not adequate for proper waste dilution. The undesirable stream pollution created will become increasingly worse as the population of the Sanford Area increases. It is likely that a satisfactory solution to sanitary sewage disposal problems in the area will require that treated sewage be released only in the Deep or Cape Fear Rivers where water volumes are adequate for proper dilution.